

Finding Aid to the Avon Tosco Refinery Collection

Descriptive Summary

Title: Avon Tosco Refinery Collection

Date Range: 1935–1997

Collection number: [Accession 08-08](#)

Extent: 1 box

Repository: County History Center, Contra Costa County Historical Society, 724 Escobar Street, Martinez, CA 94553, 925-229-1042

Physical location: Special Collections

Legal status: public

Information for Researchers

Access: Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights: [\[Here we need to add the publication rights\]](#)

Preferred Citation: Suggested citation of these records is: [Identification of item], Avon Tosco Refinery Collection, Contra Costa County Historical Society.

History: Associated Oil Company began construction of the Avon Refinery in 1913. Associated Oil Company and Tide Water Oil Company formed a partnership in 1926 and merged ten years later, becoming Tide Water Associated. J. Paul Getty gained control of the company in 1951 and changed the name to Tide Water in 1954. The company name was changed to Tidewater Oil Company in 1956. Phillips Petroleum purchased the refinery in 1966. Tosco purchased the property in 1976. A merger in 2001 resulted in ConocoPhillips ownership.

Scope and Content: This contains photographs, documents, house organs, and other materials related to the Avon Refinery in Concord, California (formally Avon Village).

Arrangement of Materials

The Avon Collection consists of one box with 14 folders. The collection was donated in 2008 by Frank Fernandes.

- Folder 1: Associated Oil Company - Shipping (Bulk Products) Southern Pacific 07/26/1935–08/26/1935
- Folder 2: Avon - Oil - *Eastern Division News* (house organ) 05/1961
- Folder 3: Avon - Oil - Memorandum (1954) and Shipping (01/22/1944) - Tidewater Associated - Southern Pacific Company
- Folder 4: Avon - Oil - Miscellaneous
- Folder 5: Avon - Oil - Newspaper Articles - Various Dates
- Folder 6: Avon - Oil - Phillips Petroleum Company
- Folder 7: Avon - Oil - Refinery History (1978? - Harry Miller?)

Folder 8: Avon - Oil - Tide Water and Tidewater - Histories/operating Manuals 1940 - 1960
Folder 9: Avon - Oil - Tidewater - 80th Birthday – 1958 article
Folder 10: Avon - Oil - Tosco Refining Company – Yearbook, 1980s - 1990s
Folder 11: *The Oil Daily* - Newspaper - 02/1962
Folder 12: Fog Bell Donation to San Francisco Church (1981?), clipping
Folder 13: Kettles Log Book - 1938–1969 (kettle 1-4)
Folder 14: Lloyd Forbes (refinery manager) History - Various Articles

Also in the photo collection are some 2000 negatives and photos of the refinery, eight have been scanned.

Indexing Terms

Oil refinery, Business records, Tosco, Avon, Tidewater, Associated Oil, Phillips Petroleum

Personal Names: Lloyd Forbes